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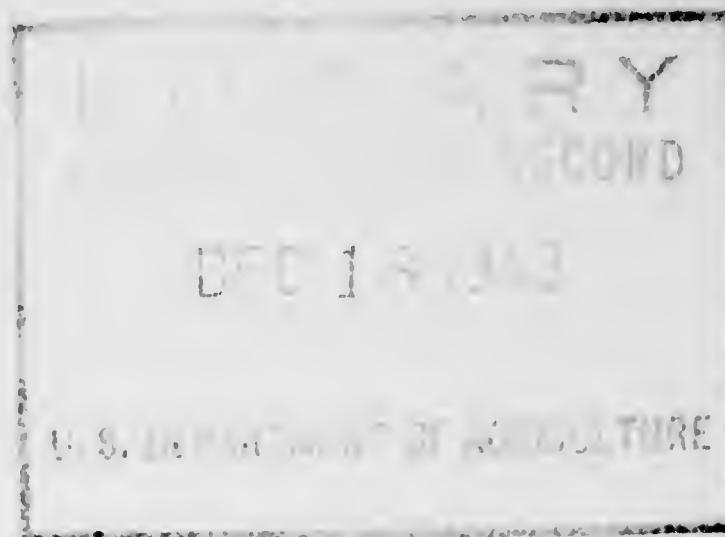
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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE  
HARRISBURG

THE GRADING OF CANNING CROPS  
IN  
PENNSYLVANIA  
1939  
SEASON

JOHN H. LIGHT  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

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THE GRADING OF CANNING CROPS IN PENNSYLVANIA  
BY  
D. M. JAMES

This annual report of the cannery products grading service of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is issued so that growers, canners, and processors of canning crops may be advised of the progress and current status of the project, and of average grades, prices, and yields of principal canning crops.

Nearly 270 million pounds were graded at 51 inspection points in 1939 compared with 193 million pounds at 44 inspection points in 1938. This self-supporting service seems not yet to have passed from the period of rapid expansion, as evidenced by the 40% increase in 1939 over 1938, 100% increase in 1939 over 1937, and 150% increase in 1939 over 1936. However with so large a proportion of the total production of such crops as tomatoes, apples, and cherries already being purchased under grades and inspections, the percentage increase in this work from year to year may be expected to be less than formerly.

The service is not a cooperative Federal-State enterprise. However much assistance has been received from the United States Department of Agriculture in grade formulation and interpretation, in supplying trained inspectors and in many other ways. This assistance, which has aided materially in the progress and proper functioning of the work since its inception in 1927, has been greatly appreciated.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture also takes this means of expressing appreciation to growers and processors of canning crops of the State through whose cooperation this work has progressed.

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Table I - Cannery Crops Inspected by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
(1923-1939)

	T H O U S A N D P O U N D S											
	<u>1939</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1935</u>	<u>1934</u>	<u>1933</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1931</u>	<u>1930</u>	<u>1929</u>	<u>1928</u>
Totals	269,931	193,630	161,141	135,103	102,734	74,920	46,716	60,677	53,454	43,702	13,486	5,542
Apples	75,719	55,819	64,218	56,754	43,233	35,553	22,933	41,972	32,114	36,452	2,956	2,284
Berries	295	73	--	244	--	12	19	--	--	--	--	--
Cherries	7,356	4,166	7,737	4,984	4,937	2,051	207	657	2,479	2,710	--	--
Corn	15,593	13,421	5,860	1,620	1,193	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Grapes	16,213	10,540	10,630	10,510	9,109	6,297	3,400	2,914	5,176	2,305	1,602	5,652
Lime Beans	418	273	159	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Pears	2,081	4,722	3,795	1,009	1,344	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Peaches	1,038	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Plums	--	21	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
String Beans	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	112	320	152	373
Tomatoes	148,159	104,565	69,192	57,352	38,158	30,937	20,007	21,694	13,364	1,492	2,357	995

BULK APPLE GRADING - 1939

1939 was the tenth consecutive year that most of the Pennsylvania canning apples were purchased on the basis of the Federal grades under State inspection.

Bulk apples graded in 1939 totaled 78,718,954 pounds compared with 55,819,000 pounds in 1938, and increase of nearly 50% and the heaviest volume of any year since this work started. During the 1939 season, canners used a 2 1/4 inch minimum size in connection with the U. S. grades. The average receipts of U. S. No. 1 (Cannery grades) was 81%, U. S. No. 2, 12%, and Culls 7%.

Inspectors were located at the following receiving points to inspect bulk apples in 1939:

Cooperative Fruit Growers of Adams County	Aspers
Cooperative Fruit Growers of Adams County	Seven Stars
H. E. Knouse Corporation	Peach Glen
M. E. Knouse Corporation	Chambersburg
C. H. Musselman Company	Biglerville
C. H. Musselman Company	Gardners

CHERRY GRADING - 1939

The 7,356,782 pounds of cherries purchased under State grading in 1939 was nearly double in 1938 volume but 400,000 pounds less than the record year of 1937 when the crop was larger.

The grades for sour cherries averaged 91% U. S. No. 1 and 9% culls compared with 92% U. S. No. 1 and 8% culls in 1938. Sweet cherries classified according to the tentative Pennsylvania specifications graded 81% No. 1's, 12% No. 2's, and 7% culls.

Inspectors were located at the following receiving points in 1939:

George W. Hoxton & Son	North East, Pa. (Branch of Oakfield, N.Y.)
Keystone Cooperative Grape Assn.	North East, Pa.
Liberty Cherry & Fruit Co.	North East, Pa. (Branch of Covington, Ky.)
W.E. McIntosh Frosted Foods	North East, Pa. (Branch of Geneva, N.Y.)
C.H. Musselman Co.	Biglerville, Pa.
Sunshine Packing Co.	North East, Pa. (Branch of Cleveland, Ohio)
Toikill & Chapman	North East, Pa. (Branch of Barker, N.Y.)

PEA GRADING - 1939

The volume of peas graded decreased in 1939 to 2,080,943 pounds from 4,722,000 pounds in 1938, due principally to decreased yields from dry weather in the State. Quality was also lower than in 1938. Average grades in 1939 were 56% Fancy, 24% Ext. Standard, 16% Standard, and 4% sub-Standard. This compares with 69% Fancy, 25% Ext. Standard, and 15% Standard in 1938.

The average price of peas purchased on the basis of Pennsylvania grades was \$50.98 a ton compared to the State average price of \$46.40 a ton.

Receiving points where State inspectors were located in 1939:

Bloomsburg Canning Co.	Bloomsburg, Pa.
Hillsboro Queen Anne Cooperative	Bloomsburg, Pa.
B. F. Shriver Company	Littlestown (Branch of Westminister Md.)
D. E. Winebrenner Company	Hanover, Pa.

GRAPE GRADING - 1939

During the 1939 grape harvesting season 16,213,292 pounds of grapes for processing were purchased in Pennsylvania on the basis of the U. S. grades under State inspection. In the previous year 10,540,000 pounds were certified. The Keystone Cooperative Grape Association, North East, Pennsylvania, and the Welch Grapejuice Company, North East, Pennsylvania (Branch of Westfield, N.Y.) were the users of the grading service.

CORN GRADING - 1939

The volume of corn graded reached a new high when 15,592,845 pounds were certified compared with 13,421,282 pounds in 1938, the previous high. The average grade of corn was 85% U. S. No. 1, maturity A., 8% U. S. No. 1-B, and 7% culls. The average price growers received was \$12.01 a ton compared with the State average price of \$10.60.

Inspectors were located at the following points to inspect corn in 1939:

Bloomsburg Packing Company	Bloomsburg, Pa.
Hillsboro Queen Anne Cooperative	Bloomsburg, Pa.
George T. Smith	New Park, Pa.
James T. Smith	Fawn Grove, Pa.
Chas. G. Summers Co.	New Freedom, Pa.

TOMATO GRADING - 1939

The purchase of tomatoes on the basis of U. S. grades increased 41% over 1938 to an all-time high of 148,159,426 pounds. Including acreage grown in Eastern Pennsylvania counties, delivered to New Jersey Canneries on the basis of U. S. grades, 93% of the total acreage grown in the State in 1939 was contracted for and purchased under official inspection. The average price, including the Eastern Penna. tomatoes mentioned above, was \$15.52 a ton, compared to \$15.09 in 1938, and \$14.69 in 1937. Average grades were 68% U. S. No. 1's, 30% U. S. No. 2's, and 2% culls. This was 3% higher on U. S. No. 1's than in 1938, but 8% lower than in 1936, the year of exceptionally high quality tomatoes.

A comparison of average quality since 1927 is shown in Table #2.

Table No. 2 Classification of Graded Tomatoes in Pennsylvania - 1928 - 1939  
(Weighted Average Percent)

	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
U.S. No.1	68	65	60	76	61	61	51	52	46	42	54	41
U.S. No.2	30	32	36	22	35	34	43	43	45	54	42	51
Culls	2	3	4	2	4	5	6	5	9	4	4	8

Table No. 3 below gives a comparison of prices and grades of tomatoes purchased on the basis of U. S. Grades in 1939. The average under the grades for "whole tomatoes" was 65% U. S. No. 1, 32% U. S. No. 2, and 1% culls; for those purchasing under the "juice" grades 71% U. S. No. 1, 28% U. S. No. 2, and 1% culls.

Table No. 3 Comparison of Tomato Grades and Prices at Penna. Canneries - 1939

	Weighted Average Percent			Contract Prices		
	U.S. No. 1	U.S. No. 2	Culls	U.S. No. 1	U.S. No. 2	Average
Cannery A	64	35	1	\$18.00	\$10.00	\$15.02
Cannery B	65	30	5	17.00	10.00	14.05
Cannery C	68	31	1	17.00	10.00	14.66
Cannery D	70	28	2	16.00	9.00	13.72
Cannery E	58	37	5	17.00	10.00	13.56
Cannery F	74	25	1	17.00	10.00	15.08
Cannery G	70	28	2	16.00	10.00	14.00
Cannery H	62	35	3	16.00	10.00	13.42
Cannery I	62	37	1	17.00	10.00	14.24
Cannery J	57	41	2	17.00	10.00	13.80
Cannery K	71	27	2	17.00	9.00	14.48
Cannery L	73	26	1	17.00	9.00	14.75
Cannery M	73	26	1	17.00	9.00	14.75
Cannery N	76	22	2	17.00	9.00	14.94
Cannery O	60	36	4	18.00	10.00	14.39
Cannery P	61	28	1	16.00	10.00	13.80
Cannery Q	67	32	1	17.00	9.00	14.27
Cannery R	58	40	2	17.00	10.00	13.85
Cannery S	75	23	2	16.75	10.75	15.02
Cannery T	70	28	2	Co-operative Pool Prices		
Cannery U	72	23	5	"	"	"
Cannery V	74	24	2	"	"	"
State Average	68	30	2			15.52*

\*Includes average prices received for Pennsylvania tomatoes delivered to New Jersey Canneries on graded basis.

State inspectors were located at the following tomato receiving points in 1939:

Bloomsburg Packing Company	Bloomsburg, Pa.
Burgoon & Yingling	Gettysburg, Pa.
Campbell Soup Co.	Lebanon, Pa. (Branch of Camden, N.J.)
Campbell Soup Co.	Lancaster, Pa. ( " " " )
Chef Boiardi Co.	Milton, Pa.
Gibbs & Co.	Quarryville, Pa. (Branch of Baltimore, Md.)
Greencastle Canning Co.	Greencastle, Pa.
Hanover Canning Co.	Hanover, Pa.
H. J. Heinz Co.	Chambersburg, Pa.
H. J. Heinz Co.	Flovin, Pa. (Branch of Chambersburg)
H. J. Heinz Co.	Hillersville, Pa. (Branch of Chambersburg)
Hillsboro Queen Anne Cooperative	Bloomsburg, Pa. (Branch of Baltimore, Md.)
Keystone Cooperative Grape Assn.	North East, Pa.
Keystone Cooperative Grape Assn.	Girard, Pa. (Branch of North East)
Landreth Seed Co.	Bristol, Pa.
Lineboro Canning Co.	Lineboro, Md.
C. H. Musselman Co.	Biglerville, Pa.
Myers Canning Co.	Spring Grove, Pa.
Shenk & Bowman	Newville, Pa.
Shenk & Bowman	McAllisterville, Pa.
G. Bartol Silver	Christiana, Pa. (Branch of Havre de Grace, Md.)
Chas. G. Simmers Jr. Inc	New Freedom, Pa.
Welch Grape Juice Co.	North East, Pa. (Branch of Westfield, N.Y.)

#### SUPERVISION AND COST OF CANNERY PRODUCTS INSPECTION

This is a self-supporting service under State supervision. Federal grades adopted as official for use in Pennsylvania are used as far as possible. Strict adherence to the grade specifications is practiced except where canners use the Federal grades with certain additional tolerances. All inspectors are trained and licensed by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Markets and may be secured through the State Inspection Service, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The charge for the service in 1939 was \$45.00 a week, of which \$3.00 covered State expenses of supervision, the balance (\$42.00) used to meet the actual expenses of the Service, including wages, compensation insurance, inspectors' reporting expenses, etc. During 1939 the average cost of inspecting 269,931,585 pounds of cannery products was 10.7¢ a ton compared with 13.1¢ in 1938, 11¢ in 1937, 12¢ in 1936, 11-1/2¢ in 1935, 13-2/3¢ in 1934, 12-2/3¢ in 1933 and 18¢ in 1932.

Additional copies of this report or further information regarding this service will be furnished upon request from the Bureau of Markets, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The following table is compiled from reports of the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service and shows acreage yield per acre, price per ton, and Pennsylvania's rank of four cannery products.

Table No. 4 Pennsylvania Canning Crop Acreage, Yield and Price Per Ton with Comparison

CROP & RANK	ACREAGE 5-yr. aver. 1928-32	YIELD PER ACRE - TONS 10-yr. aver. 1923-37	PRICE PER TON FOR CROP 5-yr. aver. 1928-37	PRICE PER TON FOR CROP 1928	
				1929*	1929*
Green & Wax Beans	2720	2150	1.4	1.5	1.8
Pennsylvania Rank	5th	5th	8th	10th	8th
Sweet Corn	6600	10300	1.6	2.0	1.8
Pennsylvania Rank	11th	10th	9th	13th	16th
Peas	1830	6400	.9	1.4	.6
Pennsylvania Rank	14th	11th	11th	6th	2nd
Tomatoes	4740	16400	4.3	5.3	7.4
Pennsylvania Rank	16th	9th	6th	8th	7th
Total Penna. Acreage	16642	38020	37110	Total Cash Return	
Pennsylvania Rank	13th	19th	10th	These Penna. Canning Crops	
				\$933,000	\$2,179,000
					\$2,286,000

\* Date for 1929 tentative. Subject to later revision by the United States Agricultural Marketing Service.

**END OF YEAR**